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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 301
By Patton

A RESOLUTION designating the third week in May each year as
“Lifelong Learning Week”.

WHEREAS, the citizens of this state are fortunate to have access to a variety of colleges and universities, institutions and organizations that support adult learning as it continues in one form or another throughout life, and that these institutions’ purposes and forms adapt to the needs of individuals at different stages of their development; and

WHEREAS, programs that promote adult learning have a long and illustrious history in this state, from the time of Lyceum, and Chautauqua to today’s graduate and research programs which focus on adult learning; and

WHEREAS, education is a lifelong process, and those individuals who are most content are those who continue to cultivate their intellect, develop the knowledge, wisdom, and skill that society requires, and prepare for participation in the solutions to human problems; and

WHEREAS, many organizations that offer educational opportunities can do so only because of the skills and talents of those who teach; many of these teachers are faithful volunteers whose efforts bring real and tangible benefits to their students, but who are all too often little recognized and underappreciated; and

WHEREAS, an area’s potential for economic development is closely tied to the skills and abilities of the local workforce; and

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WHEREAS, it is recognized that in this era of rapidly changing technology and new approaches to many aspects of our work lives, the development of new skills and the exploration of new fields of endeavor are of vital importance to the continued security and economic growth of our state; and

WHEREAS, the future of the State of Tennessee rests upon the ability of its citizens to ensure stability and growth, to direct social change so as to improve order, and to meet wisely the challenges of a free society; and

WHEREAS, adults who return to the classroom often experience great sacrifice and hardship in their quest to improve their educational background and credentials; and

WHEREAS, their efforts often result in a better quality of life for themselves and their families; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby designate the third week in May each year as "Lifelong Learning Week" in Tennessee, to be celebrated in 1997 during the week of May 18-24, and urge all citizens to visit participating institutions and organizations and to become better acquainted with the services offered by each institution to the extent that each citizen can benefit from these services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.